Certaine neceſſarie Articles ſet out by the Archbiſhop of Yorke and his Aſſociates, Commiſſioners in cauſes Eccleſiaſticall, to be obſerued in the Dioceſſe of Yorke. 1583. Martij. 3.

WHereas notwithſtandyng the greate plentie of knowledge whiche in theſe daies of the Goſpell it hath pleaſed God to powre forth among vs in moſt bountifull maner: yet diuers of the people in many places remaine ſtill in ignoraunce and Superſtition, not muche regardyng godly inſtruction, and withdrawyng them ſelues more and more from diuine ſeruice on the Sabboth daies and other Hollidaies by law appointed, vpon euery trieſling occaſion, whiche rather folowyng their owne phantaſie, and ſeeking their owne pleaſures, then ſtudying to ſerue God according to his lawes. VVe haue thought good on the behalf of the glorie of God, and for the ſoules health of the people, to haue a ſpeciall regarde to this matter, and by the auctoritie of the high Commiſſion for cauſes Eccleſiaſticall to vs committed, to prouide that the good and godlie lawes on that behalfe made, bee more diligently put in execution, vppon paine of ſuche cenſures, puniſhmentes, and fines, as by the Queenes Maiſtes lawes and her highneſſe Commiſſion to vs directed are alreadie prouided: and ſo muche the rather at this preſent, becauſe of the want of conuenient inſtruction, and by meanes of ſo muche abſenting themſelues from the Church, and the needful exerciſes of Religiō vſed therein, diuers of them do become in the end wilful recuſantes, and very euill ſubiectes beſides: as diuers examples of late haue giuen ſufficient teſtimonie thereof.

VVe therfore, Edwin by the grace of God, Archbiſhop of Yorke, Primate of England, and Metropolitane, and other our Aſſociates her Maieſties Commiſſioners for cauſes Eccleſiaſticall within the Prouince of Yorke: whoſe names are vnder written, do in the name of God moſt inſtantly require, and by vertue of her Maieſties Cōmiſſion afore ſaid, to vs and others directed moſt ſtraightly, charge and cōmaund that theſe fewe pointes enſewing, be more diligently obſerued of all, as vnto euery one it ſhall appertaine.

That Miniſters doe their diuetie.

FIrſt, that all which are of the Miniſterie, do not only reade vnto the people diſtinctly and reuerently diuine Seruice and Homilies, and (ſuche as are able and auctho̅riſed) preache vnto them likewiſe as is appointed, but alſo that they Catechiſe the yonger ſo̅rte as is preſcribed, teaching them both to ſaie it by harte and to vnderſtande the ſame in reaſonable maner: And that in quiet and gentle maner they likewiſe teach the reſidue of their Pariſhe (ſo many as alreadie can not doe it) the Articles of the faith, the ten Commaundements, and the Lords Praier, both to ſaie them by harte, and in ſome good meaſure alſo to vnderſtād them, and that they doe it in ſo diligent and faithful maner, as becometh & behoueth thoſe which are to giue accompt of the ſame in the daie of the Lord.

That the people keepe Church and Catechiſme.

Secondly, that the people themſelues together with their children and ſeruaunts come diligently bothe to Mo̅rnyng and Euenyng Praier: and that then and there they giue diligent eare withal reuerence to the wo̅rde of God, and that they haue their ſeruauntes and children at conuenient tyme in the afternoone at Euening Praier, as is alreadie appointed, to the Catechiſme, to be inſtructed and examined therein: and themſelues likewiſe ſo oft as thei may conueniently be alſo there, to heare thoſe things expounded fo̅r their owne inſtruction, that ſo they maie be mo̅re readie to come to the Lords Table ſo often and accordingly, as by law they are bounde at the leaſt.

That church wardēs take the forfaiture of abſentes.

Thirdly, that the Churchwardens bee not abſent themſelues neither from Mo̅rning no̅r Euening Praier without ſpeciall cauſe: and in ſuche caſe, that they haue ſome of their honeſt neighbo̅rs ſufficient fo̅r the office to ſupplie their roumes. And that they diligently marke what Houſholders o̅r others of their families are abſent either from diuine Seruice o̅r Catechiſme, o̅r otherwiſe miſbehaue themſelues there, that after Seruice together with their Miniſter they take a note thereof in writing (eſpecially of the cheefeſt offenders) and after leuy of them by way of diſtreſſe the fo̅rfaiture by Statute appointed (if they haue not lawfull and reaſonable cauſe of their abſence) as they are by Statute directed: and that they beſto̅w the ſame on the poo̅re as accordingly is appointed: And that if any Churchwardens make default herein, the Miniſter certifie vs thereof in conuenient time, that refo̅rmation thereof be not ouerlong delaied.

That church wardens keepe a note thereof.

Fourthly, that the Churchwardens ſhall keepe a continuall accompt of ſuch ſommes ſo receiued and beſto̅wed, and once euery quarter of the yere make vp thoſe accomptes to their owne pro̅per Miniſters in writing: and that done, laie the ſame vp in the common Cheſt vnder ſafe cuſtodie to be in a readineſſe to be ſhewed to the ſaied Archbiſhopp and his ſaied Aſſociates, o̅r to three of them, ſo often as they ſhall thinke good to call fo̅r the ſame, o̅r otherwiſe to be ſhewed to ſuch as they ſhall think good from tyme to tyme to appoint fo̅r the better execution thereof and eaſe of the people, that ſo the offenders therein may be knowne and puniſhed accordingly.

Laſtly, wee exho̅rte and require all Preachers lawfully auctho̅riſed, that thei doe not onely looke to their owne charge, but alſo ſo much as conueniently they can, help to ſupplie the want which is in their next and nigh neighbours not able by themſelues to feed their flock. And we alſo charge & commaunde the Churchwardens that they ſuffer none to preache, o̅r ſerue as Curate, vnleſſe they bee allowed and lawfully licenſed thereunto by ſufficient auctho̅ritie.

Edwyne Eborum. *Mathewe Hutton.* *Ro. Lougher.*
VVilliam Palmer. *Henry VVright.* *Ry. Percy.*